

57TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INVASION OF NORMANDY ON D-DAY

HON. FELIX J. GRUCCI, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2001

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise and ask all Americans to join me in pausing for a moment to remember the 57th Anniversary of one of the greatest fights for freedom in world history: the invasion of Normandy on D-Day.

The men, who fought this battle, many giving their lives, did nothing short of saving the world. At a time when Europe was dominated by Hitler, these soldiers mounted an invasion that many were sure was impossible at Omaha and Utah beaches, securing the coast against all odds, and beginning the final drive to defeat the Nazi's. Anyone who has seen the movie *Saving Private Ryan* has seen but a glimpse of this greatest battle of World War II.

Today, more than a thousand World War II veterans are dying each day. These men and women, who secured the freedom we enjoy today, both in America and abroad, are heroes. Their bold actions and selfless sacrifices will soon be honored on our National Mall with a new monument for them, and are being seen and appreciated anew through the eyes of a new generation. Whether it be at the theater seeing Pearl Harbor or countless other venues, our children are seeing that World War II isn't just a history lesson in school, it was heroic actions by ordinary men and women, which shaped the world in which we live today.

Mr. Speaker, this is why I am asking all Americans to join me in reflecting on the sacrifices made by these soldiers, and say a silent "Thank you" to them.

AIDS EPIDEMIC

SPEECH OF

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, twenty years ago the medical world was riding a wave of confidence. Our scientists had conquered polio, tuberculosis, smallpox, you name it. We were ready for any new challenge. But no one was prepared on June 5, 1981 for the crisis that was to come. Some thought this new discovery to be a rare pneumonia, others a new form of cancer. It attracted minor attention at the time, but little did we know that the world was about to meet the most devastating epidemic of our time—AIDS.

When we look back now at our response to the onset of AIDS, we see a nation that ignored an epidemic and a Congress reluctant to devote resources to finding its cure. Too many people believed that they could never contract AIDS and they failed to protect themselves from it. But no one is immune, and by the time we looked up AIDS had reached every community across the world. One need only look at the decimation of the African continent to see the dramatic consequences of our inattention to AIDS.

In the last decade we have made great strides in this country in dealing with this terri-

fying crisis. Research funded by the NIH has yielded incredible breakthroughs in treatment, indefinitely prolonging the lives of people living with HIV. The Ryan White CARE Act has established a comprehensive program of treatment and support services, bringing a little hope and humanity to people living with HIV and AIDS. The HOPWA program is helping almost 60,000 people a year find the stable housing they need to live long and productive lives. We should be proud of these efforts.

But there is a new epidemic that has beset us. It is called complacency. The flat funding for Ryan White proposed by the President, the rising number of HIV cases reported in women, the dramatic increase in HIV across communities of color. These should serve as a wake-up call to all of us that our work is nowhere near done. We must redouble our efforts in prevention and treatment if we hope to ever eliminate it from our midst. Before we can eradicate AIDS, we must eradicate the complacency that surrounds us.

Mr. Speaker, anniversaries are a time for reflection, a time to look back at where we've been and look ahead to where we may be going. We have a lot to be proud of in our response to the AIDS epidemic, but let's take this opportunity to re-energize our AIDS policy and conquer this terrible disease once and for all.

PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER IN DIARELA**HON. JO ANN DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2001

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, a constituent from Virginia's Northern Neck sent me a report on the work of his daughter, a Peace Corps Volunteer in Diarela, a remote village of approximately five hundred farmers near Mali's border with Ivory Coast, in Western Africa.

Until the parents visited in Mali, they had difficulty answering their neighbors' standard question, "What does she do there." There is no short, easy answer. She lives in a house built and furnished to Peace Corps specifications: a tin roof, mud walls and a concrete floor, a table and a chair. The nearest electricity and running water are hours away. She has a bicycle and some basic tools, and only a very small stipend. Where else are Americans asked to live and work with so little, and with the vaguely-implied imperative to do what you can in the best interests of the United States of America?

The visiting parents of Ms. Kallus saw the intangible results of her efforts as a Peace Corps volunteer when she invited the men of the village to drink tea. At least forty came. They conversed about many subjects: from crops and weather to self respect and the brotherhood of races. Ms. Kallus skillfully translated from Bamba and French to English. Around midnight, one of the village farmers spoke up, saying, "We trust you, Batoma." (That is the name they have given her.) "You work hard and speak the truth. Because of you, we know and respect the United States."

Americans can get no better return on their tax dollar than that.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SALES INCENTIVE COMPENSATION ACT

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2001

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join my colleague, Representative ROB ANDREWS from New Jersey, in the introduction of "The Sales Incentive Compensation Act." This is a very narrow, technical amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938. The purpose of the legislation is to clarify the treatment of certain types of sales employees under the federal minimum wage and overtime requirements.

Technological advances have dramatically changed the way in which sales employees perform their jobs. Companies now compete in a global market where many business transactions occur through use of the Internet, faxes and the telephone.

This bill is specifically written for the so-called "inside sales" employee, who works primarily at the employer's facility, using the phone, fax and computer connections to communicate with non-retail customers. Many of these employees are professional sales people who deal with very sophisticated products or function as both a consultant and salesperson to customers, yet they are not covered by any of the current exemptions from minimum wage and overtime.

The treatment of inside sales employees under the law has only become an issue in recent years, as the courts have reached differing conclusions about whether inside sales employees qualify for any of the current exemptions. Since many of these employees are covered by a 40 hour workweek, current law has the unintended effect of placing a ceiling on their income because they do not have the flexibility or the choice to work additional hours in order to generate more sales and earn more commissions.

The Sales Incentive Compensation Act takes into account the changes that have occurred in the workplace since the law was enacted in 1938. The legislation would update the law to more accurately reflect the duties and functions of inside sales employees. By doing this, employees would have the opportunity to increase their wages.

In order to qualify for this exemption, an employee must meet the requirements in the bill that outline the specific functions and duties of the job. An employee would have to have a detailed understanding of the customer's needs and specialized or technical knowledge about the products or services being sold. The employee must sell predominately to repeat customers—in other words, the exemption would not apply to telemarketers or sales employees who primarily "cold call" customers. In addition, the employee must have a detailed understanding of the customer's needs.

The legislation ensures protections for the employee in that it requires the employer to pay a minimum amount of base compensation. The remainder of the employee's compensation would be derived from commissions on sales. So employees would be provided with a base salary, an additional amount of guaranteed commissions, and continued incentives for increased earnings. Employees who choose to work longer hours in order to